

National Park Service, Interior

§ 51.23

businesses in operations under the proposed concession contract.

(c) A prospectus may include subfactors under each of the principal and secondary factors to describe specific elements of the selection factor.

§ 51.18 When must the Director reject a proposal?

The Director must reject any proposal received, regardless of the franchise fee offered, if the Director makes any of the following determinations: the offeror is not a qualified person as defined in this part; The offeror is not likely to provide satisfactory service; the proposal is not a responsive proposal as defined in this part; or, the proposal is not responsive to the objectives of protecting and preserving the resources of the park area and of providing necessary and appropriate services to the public at reasonable rates.

§ 51.19 Must the Director award the concession contract that is set forth in the prospectus?

Except for incorporating into the concession contract appropriate elements of the best proposal, the Director must not award a concession contract which materially amends or does not incorporate the terms and conditions of the concession contract as set forth in the prospectus.

§ 51.20 Does this part limit the authority of the Director?

Nothing in this part may be construed as limiting the authority of the Director at any time to determine whether to solicit or award a concession contract, to cancel a solicitation, or to terminate a concession contract in accordance with its terms.

§ 51.21 When must the selected offeror execute the concession contract?

The selected offeror must execute the concession contract promptly after selection of the best proposal and within the time established by the Director. If the selected offeror fails to execute the concession contract in this period, the Director may select another responsive proposal or may cancel the selection and resolicit the concession contract.

§ 51.22 When may the Director award the concession contract?

Before awarding a concession contract with anticipated annual gross receipts in excess of \$5,000,000 or of more than 10 years in duration, or, pursuant to § 51.24(b), the Director must submit the concession contract to the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate. The Director must not award any such concession contract until 60 days after the submission. Award of these contracts may not be made without the Director's written approval. The Director may not delegate this approval except to a Deputy Director or an Associate Director. The Director may award a concession contract that is not subject to these or other special award requirements at any time after selection of the best proposal and execution of the concession contract by the offeror.

Subpart D—Non-Competitive Award of Concession Contracts

§ 51.23 May the Director extend an existing concession contract without a public solicitation?

Notwithstanding the public solicitation requirements of this part, the Director may award non-competitively an extension or extensions of an existing concession contract to the current concessioner for additional terms not to exceed three years in the aggregate, *e.g.*, the Director may award one extension with a three year term, two consecutive extensions, one with a two year term and one with a one year term, or three consecutive extensions with a term of one year each. The Director may award such extensions only if the Director determines that the extension is necessary to avoid interruption of visitor services. Before determining to award such a contract extension, the Director must take all reasonable and appropriate steps to consider alternatives to avoid an interruption of visitor services. Further, the Director must publish notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER of the proposed extension at least 30 days in advance of the award of the extension (except in emergency situations).